

REMARKS

Claims 1, 4, 5, and 7 remain in the application and claim 1 has been amended hereby.

Reconsideration is respectfully requested of the rejection of claims 1, 4, and 5 under 35 USC 102(e), as being anticipated by Peterson '020.

Features of the accounting system according to the present invention are a second controller included in a terminal device for transmitting a remaining accounting point information stored in a first memory built in the terminal device to an accounting center which performs an accounting process based on the remaining accounting point information transmitted from the terminal device.

Claim 1 has been amended to emphasize these features of the present invention.

It is respectfully submitted that Peterson '020 fails to show or suggest a second controller included in a terminal device for transmitting a remaining accounting point information to an accounting center for processing. Peterson '020 is merely teaching the use of a removable smart card (88 in Fig. 3) for storing accounting points. The points in a general prepaid card such as the one taught by Peterson '020 are not transmitted to the accounting center.

Accordingly, it is respectfully submitted that amended

independent claim 1, and the claims depending therefore, are patentably distinctly over Peterson '020.

Reconsideration is respectfully requested of the rejection of claims 1, 4, and 5 under 35 USC 103(a), as being unpatentable over Peterson '020 in view of Kupka et al.

The rejection of claims 1, 4, and 5 over Peterson '020 has been addressed above and, because there are no features in Kupka et al. that somehow could be combined with Peterson '020 and result in the presently claimed invention, it is respectfully submitted that claims 1, 4, and 5 are patentably distinct over Peterson '020 in view of Kupka et al.

Reconsideration is respectfully requested of the rejection of claim 7 under 35 USC 103(a), as being unpatentable over Peterson '020 in view of Goldman.

Claim 7 depends from claim 1, which rejection over Peterson '020 has been addressed above and, because there are no features in Goldman that somehow could be combined with Peterson '020 and result in the presently claimed invention, it is respectfully submitted that claim 7 is patentably distinct over Peterson '020 in view of Goldman.

Entry of this amendment is earnestly solicited, and it is respectfully submitted that the amendments made to the claims hereby raise no new issues requiring further consideration and/or search, because all of the features of this invention have clearly

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been considered by the examiner in the prosecution of this application and because the present amendments serve only to further define and emphasize the novel features of this invention.

Favorable reconsideration is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,
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